

# St Mary's Newsletter

St Mary's Catholic Primary School  
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Thursday 31 May 2018 Week 5 Term 2

We want our children to be:  
CARING, BELIEVERS, OPEN, SECURE, WELL BALANCED, GENEROUS, CREATIVE

## Dates to Remember

Monday 4 June  
Tuesday 5 June  
Thursday 14 June @ 8.50am

Friday 15 June @ 8.50am  
Tuesday 19 June @ 8.50am  
Friday 22 June  
Sunday 24 June @ 10am  
Thursday 28 June @ 8.50am

Friday 1 June Winter Carnival (Years 4-6)  
Public Holiday  
Catholic Day (Pupil Free Day)  
Liturgy (Pre-Primary, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3) in the Multi-Purpose Room  
Year 4 Assembly in the Multi-Purpose Room  
P & F Meeting in the staff room  
Confirmation Retreat  
Confirmation Mass  
Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 Oral Language Presentations in the Multi-Purpose Room

The Uniform Shop is open on  
**Thursday afternoons between 1pm and 3:30pm** ☺  
Term 2 is Winter Uniform



### MASS TIMES

Kirup

(as of 1 June, till end of August there will be no Mass in Kirup)

**Sunday 3 June**

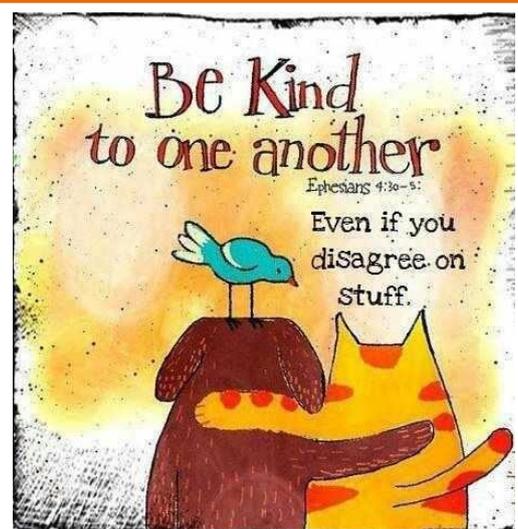
Donnybrook @ 8.30am

Altar Servers: Joshua and Christopher

**Sunday 10 June**

Donnybrook @ 10am

Altar Servers: Jackson, Jai and Sophie



UNIFORM SHOP

# SALE

Size 14 and 16 only **Blue Tracksuit pants \$5 each**

Dear Parents/Caregivers

### **Learning**

The Year 4 students have been doing some wonderful maths work using the PRIME maths series. The children have been exploring measurement and using lots of hands on methods to develop their understanding of units of work. It is great to hear the engaged discussion on maths as you walk into the classroom and excitement as they make comparisons and develop their knowledge.

We aim to develop students who are engaged in their learning and the Year 5 students have been doing a great job of setting personal short-term goals for different learning areas. What has been really impressive is that some of the children have reached their goals a lot earlier than their proposed time frame and are starting to reflect on their capabilities and pushing the limits to reach their potential. I love it when they visit my office to celebrate meeting a learning goal.

### **Engagement**

Earlier this term we asked parents to complete a survey for feedback on the school.

Thank you to all those parents who took the time to complete the survey - this vital information has formed part of our school plan for the next three years. As mentioned in previous newsletters we are part of the Fogarty EDvance project which is a three-year project to support the school in raising student achievement through professional learning, mentoring and support, based on educational research. The survey gives us a wonderful insight into how parents, staff and students can work together to gain the best outcomes for our students. Overall results from the survey showed high parent satisfaction with the school in these particular areas: that parents feel welcome, the way the school supports learning, safety at school, inclusion of students and school supports for positive behaviour.

One area for growth is the manner in which parents are informed about student learning - currently we have parent/teacher/student interviews two times a year, school reports, emails, SMS, diaries and other technology to report to parents but 41% of parents who completed the survey stated they only met a teacher 1 time and 33% said they talked to a teacher '0' times. Our records show that over 95% of parents turn up for 'three-way' interviews twice a year and over 80% turn up for class meetings. There are also numerous times parents are contacted by phone, email or have informal meetings with teachers - all of these interactions are recorded on our SEQTA system to ensure we can track student progress and follow up with any actions in a timely manner. We welcome ways to improve the quality of interactions so we can all be in partnership for the best outcomes for our students. Every conversation staff have with you about your child - whether it is a quick conversation about their home reading or a comment on their great results in a test - is a conversation about learning and aims to promote that focus between school and home. As always, we encourage parents to come and discuss any aspect of their student's learning with teachers or the leadership team, so we can support the children in their journey.

### **Accountability**

Please remember to label all clothing items - during winter we have a lot of stray jumpers and having clear names labelled on them makes it so much easier to reunite them with their owners. Please remember if you have a second-hand piece of clothing to clearly mark it with the new owner's name to avoid confusion of who owns what.

### **Discipleship**

Thank you for your kind generosity for the CatholicCare free dress fundraiser last week- we raised \$143.55 for this worthwhile cause.

Father Gerald gave a beautiful homily on Trinity Sunday. He talked about the importance of the sign of the cross. When we make the sign of the cross we are focusing on our relationship with God and others. At Monday assembly we talked about the Gospel and Father Gerald's homily. We discussed when we make the sign of the cross that as we make the vertical part of the cross we think about our relationship with God and as we make the horizontal section we think about our relationship with others. It is important to think about how we use the Gospel, prayer and our actions to reinforce our relationship with God and others in all we do.

God Bless

Annette Quirk

## P&F News

Next P & F Meeting on Tuesday 19 June at 8.50am in the Staff Room. God Bless, St Mary's P & F

### Love, But Be Detached

We were born to form relationships. There is a reason why we were born into a family and that is to form a loving relationship with others beginning at home. But as we form our relationships with people, the attachment grows and as attachment grows so does trouble in relationship begins. Attachment leads to clinginess and nothing chokes relationship faster than being clingy. Being clingy leads to all sorts of negative behaviour in a relationship and the relationship instead of being a positive experience becomes a nightmare. Attachment wants control, it becomes over-protective, overshadowing the growth of the beloved. It also leads to insecurity that makes the individual overly jealous for no reason at all. Attachment above all expects something in return and becomes agitated and even aggressive if expectations are not met. There is no true love in attachment; there is only selfishness.

Real love on the other hand, allows the other person to grow. It doesn't seek to control but it offers guidance and direction. Love doesn't dictate and imposes its will on the beloved but offers guidelines that will help the beloved to make decisions. Even if the decision is not the desired intention yet it never ceases to stand by to offer assistance should it be needed. In short love is detached. But detachment does not mean being aloof or indifferent. Detachment doesn't mean not being passionate towards the person or people we deeply care about but it simply means we respect the space and the individuality of the person we love. Detachment is not building walls nor jeopardising our relationship but simply allowing the other person to grow and experience everything about life. Sometimes in our desire to protect our loved ones from pain or suffering we tend to interfere or meddle in their lives but part of loving someone is allowing them to cross the bridge on their own and learning from that experience. We have to accept the fact that we cannot simply live their lives; they have to live it on their own. A true sign of detachment is no more dependency and no more expectations. Love is not about reciprocity, it is about the giving of ourselves because we love the other person. And there is freedom in this kind of love. Love is never a shackle that binds us to another person. Love is all about relinquishing control and just seeing the beloved grow and bloom before our eyes. And when true love resides in the heart, it doesn't feel any insecurity because it believes that love is deeply embedded in the heart of the beloved that it will always return to the fountainhead.

Father Gerald Tan  
May 2018

### New Youth Mass Dates



**PLEASE NOTE:** There have been changes to Mass times over the winter months. Could you kindly write these new dates for Youth Mass on your calendar.

**Saturday June 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday July 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday August 25<sup>th</sup>**

All families are most welcome. Mass begins at 6pm followed by dinner in the Parish centre. If your child/ family would like to be on the roster for altar serving, commentary, reading, offertory or collection please contact Cathy 0419-527-231

Dear Parents,  
I would like to offer to you the possibility of baptising your child/ren into the Catholic faith. This is to ensure that they receive the other sacraments and be part of the faith journey of their catholic friends and classmates. Your child/ren can be baptised during a ceremony in the school grounds with the rest of the school community as witnesses to this event. Please contact the Principal, Annette Quirk, or myself on 97311118 if you are interested. Praying that your stay in St. Mary's school will continue to be fruitful not only in the intellectual side of things but also spiritually. God bless you all.

Respectfully Yours,  
Fr. Gerald Tan  
Parish Priest (Assumption of our Lady Parish)